

Amendment To The Specification

Please replace the paragraph on page 3, lines 22-26 with the following amended paragraph:

---

A1  
As used herein the term "visual effect" includes, for example, speckled, metallic, pearlescence ~~pealescence~~, fluorescence, angular metamerism (e.g., the phenomenon where two colors appear to match under one light source, yet do not match under a different light source), granite, stone, brick, and the like appearances, as well as a translucent capability, and combinations thereof.

---

Please replace the paragraph on page 8, lines 7-15 with the following amended paragraph:

---

A2  
In particular, an RGB color code involves specifying a value for the red, green and blue components of the target color which values range from 0-255 ~~[[0-256]]~~ for each component. For an L\*a\*b\* color code, the "L\*" component is the lightness/darkness of the target color, the "a\*" component relates to the red/green aspect of the target color, and the "b\*" component relates to the yellow/blue aspect of the target color. The "L\*" component can have a value from 0 to 100, the "a\*" component can have a value from -199 to +199, and the "b\*" component can have a value from -199 to +199. Thus, if the components of the code are known, the user can specify and input the value for each component of the target color.

---

Please replace the paragraph on page 9, lines 11-15 with the following amended paragraph:

---

A3  
The visual effect may be computer generated, obtained from an image database, or a combination thereof. A series of polycarbonate blends were prepared containing between 0.001 and 0.005 parts by weight of metallic flakes for visual verification of computer generated representations of products having a

visual effect such as speckled appearance as described below. ~~The flake samples are listed in Table I.~~ Typically, metallic flakes such as aluminum flakes, supplied by a vendor are in a concentrate form. The concentrate is composed of aluminum flakes dispersed in a carrier material that is non-metal and dissolves into the polycarbonate. The fraction of carrier material used by the vendor for each aluminum particle size is different. Table I shows the corresponding fraction of aluminum metal flakes found in each concentrate as supplied by the vendor. For example, if one adds 0.005 parts by weight of the compound with an aluminum flake of mean particle size 225 microns, then 70% of the 0.005 parts by weight will actually be aluminum flake or 0.00375 parts by weight.

Please replace the paragraph on page 11, lines 3-9 with the following amended paragraph:

The appearances of a rendered image and a real part are desirably matched when the concentrations of visible flakes in each are the same (assuming the flake size distributions are properly represented). In a real part, the number of flakes which is visible is less than the number of flakes which is actually present because flakes near the surface overlap those lying beneath. Overlapping flakes of the real part, for example, illustrated in FIG. 7, are also desirably replicated in the representation or rendered image, for example, as illustrated in FIG. 8. More specifically, FIG. 7 shows a two-dimensional image of metal flakes in a material of a given volume which includes the third dimension of depth. The flake in the upper left hand corner of FIG. 7 comprises two flakes, one underneath the other. The flake that is on top is white while the flake just underneath it and thus deeper in the material is just a little offset in the plane of the image and is shaded in grey. FIG. 8 is a computer image representation showing the offset in grey. In particular, FIG. 8 shows that the flake in the upper left hand corner comprises a nine square flake on top like the one shown in FIG. 6 along with a four square flake like the one shown in FIG. 5. The four square

4  
flake is just below the nine square flake and is shaded in grey and offset a bit to show only two of its four pixels.

---

Please replace the ~~paragraph~~ on page 16, lines 21-28 with the following amended paragraph:

---

45  
Advantageously, where the target or designed product having a visual effect is not physically available, the user is notified, for example, as noted above regarding whether the color is a custom or standard color. Desirably, the target color can be matched to an available color and displayed for the user. A process for determining an available color based on a target color is described in greater detail in U.S. Patent Application No. 6,349,300 issued February 19, 2002, and ~~09/292,917~~ filed April 16, 1999, entitled "Method and System for Selecting Product Colors," ~~Attorney Docket RD-26,572~~, the contents of which is incorporated in its entirety by reference.

---